

District 25 News

MAKIKI, TANTALUS, MCCULLY, PAPA KOLEA

November 2007



Dear Neighbors,

Superferry Saga Continues. As I write this, the Legislature has completed its second Special Session of the year to enact legislation that enables the Hawaii Superferry to operate while it conducts an Environmental Impact Statement.

While the immediate question of whether the Superferry will operate will be resolved in the court system, the general questions and issues raised by events surrounding the Superferry will reverberate through future legislative sessions. I am

hopeful that the Legislature will tackle some of these difficult issues in 2008.

District 25 School Priorities & Plans. Although the Superferry has dominated much of the public's attention, other community and government matters should not be ignored. Schools are the focus of this month's newsletter. I hope you find the information about the repairs taking place at our schools and the planning process being undertaken by Stevenson Middle School useful.

If you are interested in participating in Stevenson's planning process, I urge you to sign up to be a member of an outreach group working on different portions of the master plan by sending an email to miniproject@rlsms.com or masterplan@rlsms.com.

With the 2008 legislative session only two months away, please contact me if you have any concerns. I can be reached by phone at 586-9425, by fax at 586-9431 or by email at repbelatti@capitol.hawaii.gov.

Sincerely,

DELLA AU BELATTI, State Representative

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Friends of Makiki Community Learning Center

Annual Meeting
Saturday, Nov. 17th
9-11 AM

Makiki District Park,
Arts & Crafts Bldg.



RECYCLING COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP PROJECT

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2007-8:00 AM-2:00 PM

McKinley H.S. Parking Lot – Pensacola Street

Please save your recyclable waste and help turn trash into cash for MHS!

- scrap metal, metal appliances
- car parts, bicycles, lawn mowers
- refrigerators, air conditioners
- newspaper, cardboard
- beverage containers
- tires
- one computer per household/car
- confidential documents to shred
- cooking oil
- green waste
- car batteries
- useable clothing and household items
- cellular phones & printer cartridges
- telephone books

Please call: [Neal Takamori at 594-0444](tel:594-0444) or [Rene Mansho at 306-1876](tel:306-1876) for curbside pick-up / info.

Finally Catching Up On School Repairs

In the mid-1990's, as Hawaii's economy stagnated and the Department of Education (DOE) suffered deep cuts to its budget, schools could no longer afford to pay for expensive repairs.

The situation became critical as hundreds of millions of dollars of backlogged work forced principals to choose how to spend precious resources and what repairs would be postponed or abandoned entirely.

Fortunately, a healthier economy has allowed the Legislature to appropriate funds to make up for the lean years, fix the backlogged projects and bring our schools into proper working order. The 2007 Legislature appropriated \$75 million specifically for school repairs.

Each year schools prioritize their needed repair work. Using the money allocated by the Legislature, the DOE weighs the different priorities of 285 schools statewide and executes as many of the repairs as funding allows. The most critical repairs, such as leaking roofs or serious structural repairs, are funded first.

Here are the ongoing projects at our schools and their repair and maintenance priorities for 2008:

Roosevelt High School

Roosevelt first opened its doors on September 1, 1932. For the past two years, Roosevelt has undergone extensive construction totaling over \$13 million.

Hard-working administrators, however, constantly struggle to keep up with needed repairs. This year, Roosevelt's top priorities include replacing rusting metal security grating on the school gym, renovating the old coaches' restroom and renovating the gym itself.

Campus Repairs Funded in 2007:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Replace A/C in Buildings A, N | \$300,000 |
| New Classroom Furniture | \$10,000 |
| Re-roof Building D | \$75,000 |

Repair and Maintenance Priorities for 2008:

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Replace Gym Security Screens | \$90,000 |
| Renovate Coaches' Restroom | \$60,000 |
| Renovate Gym | \$366,000 |



Washington Middle School

Built in 1927, Washington was the first intermediate school started on the island of Oahu. This year Washington's repair priorities are removing old metal security cages around campus, resurfacing student common areas, and installing wheelchair ramps to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Campus Repairs Funded in 2007:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Re-roof Building E | \$280,000 |
| Renovate Locker Rooms | \$208,000 |
| Fans for Cafeteria | \$8,000 |

Repair and Maintenance Priorities for 2008:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Remove Metal Security Cages | \$45,000 |
| Resurface Student Area | \$50,000 |
| Install Wheelchair Ramps | \$62,000 |



Roosevelt High School needs funding for new metal security screens like these on its gym windows.

Stevenson Middle School

Stevenson Middle School was initially occupied by Roosevelt High School Students in 1930. This hidden gem of a campus is set to embark on a master planning process that will hopefully result in a revitalization of the current site.

While much energy and thought will be invested into this process, Stevenson's repair needs still exist. Priorities for 2008 include replacing all the old water fountains on the campus, recarpeting and repainting the school library, and recarpeting the band room.

Campus Repairs Funded in 2007:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| New Science Lab | \$180,000 |
| New Classroom Furniture | \$6,000 |
| New Floor in Building F | \$32,000 |

Repair and Maintenance Priorities for 2008:

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| New Water Fountains | \$25,000 |
| Recarpet and Repaint Library | \$85,000 |
| Recarpet Band Room | \$15,000 |



Stevenson Middle School's Administration Building received \$250,000 for renovation work this year.

Queen Kaahumanu Elementary School

Located between the busy Piikoi, Pensacola, Kinau, and South Beretania Streets, Queen Kaahumanu School has some important repair requests. The school's 2008 repair and maintenance priorities include replacing the school's program bell system, replacing worn classroom furniture, and renovating old restrooms.

Repair and Maintenance Priorities for 2008:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| New Program Bell System | \$210,000 |
| Replace Classroom Furniture | \$3,000 |
| Renovate Old Restrooms | \$160,000 |



Scars from digging up pipes under Lincoln Elementary's walkways are a constant reminder of the frequent water line breaks the school regularly endures.

Lincoln Elementary School

Lincoln Elementary School, originally located near Thomas Square, moved to its Punchbowl location in 1956. After undergoing a \$2.3 million school-wide air conditioning project in 2006-2007, the major priority for Lincoln in 2008 is to replace decades-old water lines throughout the campus that have begun to rupture on a regular basis.

Campus Repairs Funded in 2007

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Building H Structural Repairs | \$150,000 |
| Parking Lot Repairs | \$125,000 |
| New Stage Curtains | \$35,000 |
| New Classroom Furniture | \$6,000 |

Repair and Maintenance Priorities for 2008:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Replace Aging Water Lines | \$560,000 |
|---------------------------|-----------|

Got E-MAIL?

Because of budget constraints, I am unable to mail newsletters to every resident in the District. One way to reduce costs is to email newsletters.

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please let me know by sending an email to:

repbelatti@capitol.hawaii.gov

Stevenson Middle School's

Master Plan

The Need For Change

As part of a statewide policy supporting the adoption of the middle school (6th-8th grade) model, 6th graders from Noelani Elementary school were transferred to Stevenson Middle School this Fall.

While Stevenson has made great effort to fit an entire grade level into its infrastructure, some educators and parents are worried that more solutions are needed to better accommodate the expanded student body on a permanent basis.

This year, administrators, teachers, parents and students at Stevenson began drafting a comprehensive master plan for the growth and redevelopment of the school. Community meetings discussing their vision for the future of Stevenson have convened over the past several months.

To learn more about what has happened in the planning process and for future steps in the process, please visit Stevenson's school web page at:

<http://www.k12.hi.us/~stevensol/>

If you'd like to get involved with the planning process, please sign up to be a member of an outreach group working on different portions of the master plan by emailing:

miniproject@rlsms.com or
masterplan@rlsms.com



Draft Plans for the Campus

After several community meetings and brainstorming sessions, participants identified the following as possible changes to Stevenson's campus:

1. Replace the current recreation center with a new building that could include a new gymnasium with two enclosed basketball courts, a separate multi-purpose room with a stage for concerts and ceremonies, and outdoor tennis courts. This facility could serve the community, Roosevelt High School, Stevenson Middle School and Lincoln Elementary School.
2. Enlarge the current band room facilities and keep them open for public use in the evenings.
3. Design and build a new building between the cafeteria and the School's main building. The use for this space is not yet designated, but ideas discussed include a music complex that can accommodate the band and choir, a new library and computer lab, or an open student center.
4. Enclose existing structures to add seven new classrooms.
5. Convert the current administration building into a two-story classroom complex and build a new administration building at the front of the school.
6. Build a new open covered area that students can use when not in class that will keep them from disturbing ongoing classes elsewhere on the campus.
7. Modify the existing parking lot and driveways.